

FBI review(s)

completed

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WWS

BY LIAISON

Date: November 5, 1969

To: Director for Inspection Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director

Subject: UNAUTHORIZED DISCLOSURE OF
CLASSIFIED INFORMATION TO
PRESS AND OTHER PUBLIC MEDIA

As you are aware, unauthorized disclosure of classified defense information and certain atomic and nuclear data to the press or other public media may be a violation of the espionage statute or the Atomic Energy Act, respectively.

This Bureau, however, does not initiate investigation of such matters unless specifically requested to do so by the Assistant Attorney General, Internal Security Division, Department of Justice.

In order for the Assistant Attorney General to make a determination in this regard, it is requested that we be furnished the following information at the time such matters are referred to us:

1. Date and identity of the article or release disclosing the classified information.
2. Specific statements which are classified and whether the data was properly classified.
3. Whether the classified data disclosed is accurate.
4. Whether the data came from a specific document and, if so, the origin of the document and the name of the individual who disclosed the classified data disclosed.

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5. The extent of official dissemination of the data.

6. Whether the data has been the subject of prior official releases.

7. Whether prior clearance for publication or release of the information was sought from proper authorities.

8. Whether the material or portions thereof or enough background data has been published officially or in the press to make an educated speculation on the matter possible.

9. Whether the data can be declassified for the purpose of prosecution and, if so, the name of the person competent to testify concerning the classification.

10. Whether declassification had been decided upon prior to the publication or release of the data.

11. What effect the disclosure of the classified data could have on the national defense.

1 - Director
Central Intelligence Agency

BY LIAISON

Attention: Deputy Director for Plans

1 - Director
Bureau of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

BY LIAISON

1 - Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence
Department of the Army

BY LIAISON

Attention: Director of Counterintelligence

1 - Commander, Naval Intelligence Command

BY LIAISON

1 - Office of Special Investigations
Air Force

BY LIAISON

Attention: Chief, Counterintelligence Division

Director for Inspection Services
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense

1 - Office of Counterintelligence and Security BY LIAISON
Defense Intelligence Agency

1 - Director, Division of Security BY LIAISON
Atomic Energy Commission

1 - Director BY LIAISON
Defense Atomic Support Agency

Attention: Chief, Intelligence and
Security Directorate

1 - Assistant Attorney General
Internal Security Division